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<u>VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL</u>

January 24, 2006

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams, Secretary Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20423-0001

Surface Transportation Board ("STB") Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 409X); BNSF Re: Railway Company ("BNSF") Abandonment between Reynolds and Superior, in Jefferson, Thayer, and Nuckolls Counties, Nebraska and Republic County, Kansas

Dear Secretary Williams:

On April 8, 2004, BNSF filed a Petition for Exemption seeking authority to abandon and discontinue service 39.95 miles of railroad line extending from railroad milepost 167.78 near Superior, Nebraska to railroad milepost 127.83 near Reynolds, Nebraska. The line traverses United States Postal Service Zip Codes 68429, 68375, 66959, 66935, 68327, 68325, 66964, 68943 and 68978. By decision served July 27, 2004, the STB granted the exemption authority to abandon effective August 26, 2004. Within that same decision, the STB stated that the abandonment was to be consummated as of July 27, 2005. Pursuant to STB decision served June 6, 2005, the STB extended the consummation date until December 31, 2005. By decision served December 29, 2005, the STB granted an extension of the consummation date until July 1, 2006. This letter is to advise you that BNSF is consummating the abandonment of the subject line as of the date of this letter.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

Sincerely,

James H. Gallegos

JHG/is

cc: Nebraska Public Service Commission

> Nebraska Department of Roads Kansas Corporation Commission Kansas Department of Transportation

Victoria Rutson, Section of Environmental Analysis, STB

Peter Rickershauser Jerome Johnson Sarah Bailiff Sidney Strickland Richard Batie

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